



Official Newsletter of the Miniwanca Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps

THE AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Mo.

November

1946

"On the sand-dunes of Miniwanca
We'll build a camp and keep it going
Strong - Strong - Strong...

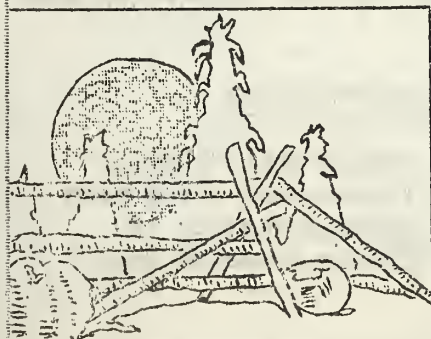
...Build a camp! Keep it going!
We'll build a camp and keep it going strong!"

Here we are, back in the Founder Office in St. Louis, starting to work on the 1947 camps already....humming the above song and ever striving to make Miniwanca the best camp in all the land. Just think! - in seven months the gang will be roaming the sand-dunes along the shores of Lake Michigan again. What fun it was to meet fellows from twenty-two states this past summer. Pretty soon the official 1947 camp dates will be coming to your parents in a special letter, but you had better put a ring around June 18th! By the way, be sure and show this copy of the "TRAIL" to Mother and Dad after you have read it. Thank You!



HERE'S YOUR COPY OF THE 1946 ROSTER

- which we promised you at camp would be sent you from here. It includes the names and addresses of all the campers and leaders and staff members. It's coming to you just in time for you to write some letters to your friends at Thanksgiving and Christmas. One of the fine things about going to a national camp is that you learn to know outstanding fellows from many states.... and all Winter long you can correspond with them and find out what's going on all over the country. So hold on to this list of names and addresses and use it often!



ABOUT 1,500 YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEADERS FROM 43 STATES

came to Camp Miniwanca this past summer. Right after

2 you and the Younger Girls left camp, about 600 Older Girls and their leaders came on July 29 and filled up both camp units. During OG they call our YB Camp "the Outpost".

AND THEN on August 12, after the Older Girls have gone home, nearly 500 Older Boys and leaders rolled onto the camp grounds. JIM EVANS was the only 1946 YB Camper who stayed over for OB, and believe you me he had a fine record for himself at the end of those two stimulating weeks and upheld the reputation of the YB Camp.

THE SIX CHIEFS IN OLDER BOYS CAMP included DICK HAMLIN, DON MORLEY, DICK PFOST, and OTTO WOMICK of the 1946 YB Leadership Staff....and you know they did a neat job in leading the various tribes in typical Miniwanca fashion.

Speaking of these leaders, reminds me of the swell programs they helped you plan during the summer...R E M E M B E R ? ? ? (I've just been peeking at the headlines of the DUNES DISPATCH - did you keep your copies?)

...the Little Point Sable Hike - including the rides on the Dunes Scooters

...the Miniwanca SQUARE Gardens - and what champions they were!

...the whole day of fun at the C O U N T Y F A I R

...the Fourth of July celebration, with a lucky leader softball win

...the sunsets and inspirational talks from our Vesper Dune

...the L E A D E R S ' F R O L I C

...the regattas on Stony Lake

...the fun we had on S D R A W K C A B DAY

...the fun breasting the waves in Lake Michigan

...and the delicious steaks at the closing BANQUET.



SOME OF THE THINGS WE HAVE IN MIND FOR 1947

include the purchase of some new ALUMINUM CANOES. We tried our best to have them for last summer, but it seems the airplane factories couldn't be converted fast enough to supply the demand for this wonderful new product. But we'll keep on trying to get the latest and best equipment for our waterfront activities.

THE OLD CHICKEN HOUSE in left field on the #2 Ball Diamond will be gone next summer, because we need the lumber to remodel the Main Unit Eating Lodge. That will give us more room to smack some home runs over the left fielder's head!

THAT NEW FISHING BOAT arrived late in the summer, so we are all set now to really go after those big perch and white fish with our gill nets next summer out in Lake Michigan. Of course, there will be fishing in Stony Lake and Stony Creek too....but we're all anxious for that big catch which will feed everybody. We're planning several trips a week - so resolve now to get yourself out of bed bright and early some fine morning next summer and come along for the time of your young life.



WE ARE DEFINITELY PLANNING AN ADDITION TO THE CRAFTS HOUSE

by the time camp opens on June 18, and we are happy to announce that "Charlie" Pauck will be back on the job as Crafts Instructor. We'll have more elbow room than ever and above all, more tools and equipment for a greater variety of projects. If you have any suggestions for this enlarged Crafts House we know you will pass them along to us pronto.

THE COLORED MOVIES TAKEN AT CAMP LAST SUMMER

turned out swell. They arrived back from Mr. Swartwout later in the season and some of the YB Leaders saw them during the senior camps. They are now being edited, and name strips added, and when any of the Directors are traveling around the country, perhaps you would like to have them shown in your town. Drop us a note if you would like to see them, and perhaps you have in mind inviting some of your friends to see these movies too.



IMPORTANT! HERE'S YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION TO WRITE SOMETHING IMPORTANT!

for the Christmas Edition of the "TRAIL". We're inviting all campers and leaders to write fifty (50) words about what they are doing in their home, school, church and community. Jot it down on the back of a penny post card - or put it in an envelop. Just think what a big issue we'll have IF everybody responds - two hundred campers and leaders times fifty words equals TEN THOUSAND WORDS! Address your card or envelop to Mr. P. G. Orwig, 3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Missouri. Thanks for your help as an "Associate Editor" of the December issue of the "TRAIL". Let's all get our articles in by 1 December 1946, shall we?

"DAD" WAITE TALKS -

Wasn't it a fine privilege for every boy in camp last summer to have a personal chat with "Dad" Waite? We know you have taken his suggestions for personal improvement seriously, and are working on your "goals" every day. If any of the campers and leaders have suggestions for improving the opportunities to have talks with "Dad" or any of the leaders, please send your idea along with the article you write for the Decembor "TRAIL". After all, we are interested in helping YOU G R O W a well-balanced life.

THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER THINGS WE'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT. . .B U T

there just isn't space in this issue. How about the well-run track and aquatic meets...the excellent play "GOOD NIGHT, PLEASE"...the visit to Minisino's Workshop ...the real job that Ken Redlin's Service Project group did on removing that tree and rebuilding the tennis court fence...the \$208 collected in Sunday-School for a memorial project...etc...etc...

DID YOU KNOW THAT

CAMPERS ARE ALREADY RESERVING PLACES FOR 1947

even before the official announcements of our 1947 plans have been made. Old campers have first priority for the new camping season. Now is the time to register for 1947. And in order to have your boy friend (who has never been to Miniwanca before) come with you next summer, he should also register now so that his name will not be too far down on the Waiting List. Miniwanca has always had a good percentage of "repeaters" from summer to summer. Plan to camp with us again in 1947.

AND NOW FOR SOME LETTERS

from several of our friends on the 1946 Younger Boys Leadership Staff. When all the leaders (as well as the campers) accept the invitation to be an Associate Editor of the December Issue, we'll be hearing from the rest of them at Christmas-time.

FIRST A MESSAGE FROM OUR YB CAMP DIRECTOR, JOE WHITWAM

Hello gang! That certainly was a great camping experience that we had together last summer at Miniwanca. Hardly a day passes without some incident of camp popping up to liven things up for me. That's what makes Miniwanca great - the fact that the memories of worthwhile activities go with us throughout the entire year.

Oh sure, there are a lot of little things we'd like to forget....the points off for poor inspections, the dirty shirt we wore a bit too long, when we had some nice fresh ones in our duffle bag, the games our Tribe ALMOST won, the Ghost Walk (Oh you Budde) and a lot of other little things....but I find it is always possible to learn good lessons from these incidents as well as from those in which everything is just right. It just wouldn't be "camp" if we couldn't find something to "boof" about.

But when we put it all together, I know you will agree with me that Miniwanca hits the spot, or it's a "BULLSEYE" as Wadjepi told us in that first Sunday Church Service on Chapel Dune. I can hardly wait until next summer, when I sure hope I'll see you back for a bigger and better YB Camp than ever. In the meantime, team, snap into it and do your stuff like a true Miniwanca camper. - JOE WHITWAM

AND NOW GREETINGS FROM OUR OWN "KODAYA"

Greetings, my YB Comrades! My message is one of congratulation. I want to tell you that your singing this past summer, in my estimation, was the best we have ever had in a YB Camp. I especially want to compliment you on the splendid reverence you displayed in the singing of our hymn of thanks at the meal hour. Are you like me? Do you hum it every now and then during the day, when you are working or playing or not doing much of anything at all? Do you remember the words?

"We thank Thee for our table, Lord;

We thank Thee for the living Word.

Take Thou our gratitude and let us be -

True in our fellowship, and true to Thee."

Sing it camper, sing it often! It's a good message to keep in our hearts.

I'll be seeing you next summer.

- KODAYA

AQUATIC DIRECTOR, RALPH QUEAL SAYS

HELLO GANG. Right off the bat I want to say again that being with you boys as campers along with the leadership staff was undoubtedly one of the highlights of my life. In the Army one became accustomed to all the griping that went on, and every now and then I used to stop and wonder if I would ever see the true spirit of cooperation again. I sure found it at Miniwanca! And the sportsmanship...I just have to hand it to you campers! Then, of course, the memories one has of camp are always good to look back on. Even morning dip has its place. But, more important, I hope each of you has taken back to your everyday life something from camp. A parent of one camper said to me the other day, "My boy has almost completely changed in his outlook on life. He's more considerate, cooperative, and eager than I could ever have hoped for him!" That's quite a tribute, fellows, and I'm sure it could be said of most of you. Well, see you next year when we have to break the ice for our first swim.

- RALPH QUEAL

HI FELLOWS: I'm sure happy to say "hello" to all of you through the "TRAIL". It brings back a lot of memories of a really swell summer at good old Y.B. In this letter I got asking me to write a little something for the paper, I noticed some other names were on the same detail. No doubt Easum can lay aside his trumpet and tennis racquet long enough to contribute something fairly interesting, but I'm wondering about what has happened to Guthrie - he's no doubt still asleep. And Ray Budde, I hear, is still trying to find "Rig R. Mortis". Will some of you Darers please tell him there is no such person. You may be interested to know that as a part of my college training I am working in a Boys' Department of one of the Chicago Y.M.C.A.'s. These are a rough and tough bunch of boys. You guys don't know how lucky you are in getting to be in a fine summer camp all summer. Just a short time ago some of these boys went for a trip to a farm. It was the first time in their lives they had ever been outside of the city. I'll have to sign off now. So until I see you all again, I am, Founderly yours

- DICK HAMLIN

AND NOW THE MIGHTY EASUM FROM TENT "Z" SAYS

I certainly do appreciate being asked to say a few words because it gives me the opportunity to answer Dick Hamlin's personal letter of about five weeks ago, thru the columns of the "TRAIL". He thinks he's the only guy in the world who knows how to type, and I don't dare write him on a typewriter - the moment I make one error he's on my neck. And I don't dare be belligerent about the thing, because he always sez: "Easum, let's call the whole thing off and I'll take you on in a game of tennis"....and that's what I've been trying to avoid for the past year. Well, what's wrong with this typing, Richard? Surely Miss Keener herself could do no better. Carolyn to you. You're just lucky I didn't let you play taps more often - you'd have been the most unpopular character in camp. And you are also lucky I didn't tell everybody whose ghastly idea that GHOSTWALK was. There are quite a few Founder folk herein Madison this fall...headed of course, by Orwig the Great. He is doing graduate work in the university Philosophy Department, and we see each other quite often. I toot my stovepipe in the university band - and when we marched down the field at the Wisconsin-Northwestern football game at Evanston, I heard a small voice from the sideline...."Hey, Easum". I stole a glance sideward, and there was Mike Gorton, one of the standbys of Tent Z and one of our better warriors when we got involved in a feud with Tent W. Well, is Jack King still trying to be funny? My best to you all.

- DON EASUM

AND FINALLY A NOTE FROM JIM ORWIG, CO-DIRECTOR OF THE PRE-SENIOR UNIT

Last Fall about this time we were settling down for the winter up at camp. That year up there is something I'll never forget. I can remember working all through the winter getting things ready for the summer, and wondering at the same time how it would be getting back to running a camp of boys after running a platoon of soldiers, and how I would like it. Well, once the summer and the camp began, things moved so fast there was hardly time to think about it, and when I did it turned out to be a wonderfully satisfying experience. Of all the years I have been to YB last year's camp was the best. Take it from a shell-back. Working with you crows was a tonic after my Army routine. I'm frankly homesick for the place as I write this, and these feelings come to me: keep in mind the things you thought up there and the ideas that crept into your hearts under its spell, for in them is your sure foundation.

- JIM ORWIG

BY THE WAY -- DO YOU HAVE ANY GOOD PICTURES THAT YOU TOOK AT CAMP LAST SUMMER?

Some of the finest pictures that are taken each summer at Miniwanca are taken by campers and leaders during the various camping sessions. If you have any extra copies of your favorite camp pictures, we would appreciate them for our permanent scrap book records of the camps in our St. Louis office. Thank you very much.

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L E A D E R S

Anderson, William, 617 Rittenhouse St., N.W., Washington 11, D.C.
 Benner, William, 145 South Maple Avenue, Webster Groves 19, Mo.
 Billett, Robert, 2500 Lincoln Street, Evanston, Illinois
 Todd Union, University of Rochester, Rochester 3, New York
 Brown, George, 8700 Burton, St. Louis 14, Missouri Camp Lee, Va.
 Pvt. #RA 16227554, 93rd QM Trg. Co., 16th Bn, Bldg. 1303 /
 Buddo, Ray, c/o Mrs. R. O. Keene, Mahomet, Illinois
 Clark, Edward, 205 W. Piccadilly, Winchester, Virginia
 University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia
 Davis, Myron Jr., 7445 Stratford, St. Louis 5, Missouri
 Easum, Donald, 115 North Allen Street, Madison, Wisconsin
 Funk, Wayne, 4104 Francis, Kansas City, Kansas
 Guthrie, Frank, 643 Park Drive, Kenilworth, Illinois
 Hamlin, Richard, Box 380, Valley, Nebraska
 George Williams College, 53rd & Drexel, Chicago, Illinois
 Jay, Robert, Box 24, Worthington, Ohio
 Johnson, T. Howard Jr., East Tallassee, Alabama Auburn, Ala.
 Alpha Gamma Rho House, Alabama Polytechnic Institute/
 King, Jack, 2918 Ridgeview Drive, Normandy 21, Missouri
 Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
 Koyl, Jamieson Glenn, 196 East North Avenue, East Palestine, Ohio
 Long, Frank, 1744 LaPorte Avenue, Whiting, Indiana
 Mathews, Eston A., Leesburg, Florida
 Stetson University, Deland, Florida
 McDermott, John, 7218 Burrwood Drive, St. Louis 21, Mo.
 Pvt. #RA16237537, 93rd QM Trg. Co., BR. T1306, Camp Lee, Va.
 Meinors, Tod, 5915 Pershing, St. Louis, 12, Missouri
 Morley, Donald, 547 Henrietta Street, Birmingham, Michigan
 Temple University School of Medicine, Broad Street at Ontario
 Philadelphia 30, Pennsylvania
 Muehlberger, Robert, 463 Rosewood Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan
 Orwig, James P., Klein-Heinz Unit, Chadbourne Hall, Madison 5, Wisconsin
 Peacock, Joseph, 2121 White Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee
 Pfest, Richard, 112 Park Pla ce, Irvington, New Jersey
 Pitts, Carl, 2844 Wismer, Overland, Missouri
 Kappa Alpha House, Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri
 Queal, Ralph W., 6822 Watorman Avenue, University City 5, Missouri
 Redlin, Kenneth, 216 Elm Street, Neenah, Wisconsin
 Dawes Cottage, Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin
 Richards, James D., 229 Maple Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois
 Beta Theta Pi, 712 E. John Street, Lawrence College,
 Appleton, Wisconsin
 Tanner, Bruce, 733 Luckystone, Glendale 22, Missouri
 Wagner, Melchior, 9 Ladue Lane, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Wiley, Thomas, R. D. #1, Ashland, Ohio
 863 South High Street, Apartment 3, Columbus 6, Ohio
 Williams, Richard H., 7 Circuit Street, Roxbury 19, Massachusetts
 Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts
 Womick, Otto, 1383 Granville Place, St. Louis 12, Missouri
 Pvt. #RA16227544, Co. B, 38 Trg. Bn BFG SIC, Ft. Dix, New Jersey

NOTE:(Names and addresses of Staff Members appear after the Campers' List)

C A M P E R S

Abbott, Larmon, 407 Cheshire Drive N.E., Grand Rapids 5, Michigan
 Abbott, Robert, 46 Broadview Drive, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Abbott, Rudyard, 407 Cheshire Drive, Grand Rapids 5, Michigan
 Adair, James, 2223 Brown Road, St. Louis 14, Missouri
 Ade, Carl A., 120 North Seventh Street, Louisiana, Missouri
 Albers, David W., 1317 Livingston Street, Evanston, Illinois
 Albon, Ralph, 21 Edwin, Glendale 22, Missouri
 Arzt, Franz, 7452 Wellington Way, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Bachman, John L., 929 Roxburgh, East Lansing, Michigan
 Ballantine, James C., 153 Haslett Street, East Lansing, Michigan
 Ballontine, James M., Route #1, Box 176, Charleston, West Virginia
 Baltzer, Robert A., 411 Kensington Road, East Lansing, Michigan
 Barnes, Gilbert H., 303 South Williams Street, Paulding, Ohio
 Beatty, Dwight L., 327 Montrose Avenue N.W., Canton 3, Ohio
 Benedict, Richard, 2993 Clearview Drive, Bel-Nor 21, Missouri
 Bonning, John D., 421 Main Street, Louisiana, Missouri
 Bernero, Tommy, 8674 Rosalie, Brentwood 17, Missouri
 Bichan, Robert, Hamler, Ohio
 Birnbaum, Robert, 20726 Brantley Road, Shaker Heights 22, Ohio
 Boatwright, Bryant, 831 Clinton Place, Evanston, Illinois
 Bolte, Donslow E., 808 West 59th, Kansas City 2, Missouri
 Boyd, Calvin, 1029 Belleforte Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois
 Boyles, Emmett L., 330 W. Main Street, Louisville, Ohio
 Brandon, Charles, 8 Willow Hill Road, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Breckenridge, Jimmy, 7429 Gannon Avenue, University City 5, Missouri
 Bridges, William E., 107 Glen Road, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Briner, Charles D., 64 Arundel Place, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Brock, Bernard, 454 Banberry Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois
 Brower, David, 34 West 8th, Holland, Michigan
 Brown, Chuck, 628 Nott Street, Schenectady 8, New York
 Busch, David C., 13660 Fairhill Road, Shaker Heights 20, Ohio
 Cadieu, Theodore, 604 Ballentine Road, Bloomington, Indiana
 Carver, George A., Yale University, 160 Lawrence Hall, New Haven, Connecticut
 Chafee, Bill, 720 South Milwaukee, Denver 9, Colorado
 Chafco, John, 720 South Milwaukee, Denver 9, Colorado
 Chandler, Arthur, 810 Yale, University City 5, Missouri
 Chapin, John N., 500 Warder, University City 5, Missouri
 Chapman, Don Jr., 702 Dickinson, Chillicothe, Missouri
 Chapman, John, 6955 Pershing, University City 5, Missouri
 Church, Archie III, Maysville, Kentucky
 Clark, Richard E., Cambridge City, Indiana
 Clark, Walter B., 7936 Gannon Avenue, University City 5, Missouri
 Cleaver, Bruce, 7710 Arthur Avenue, Richmond Heights 17, Missouri
 Clendenen, Robert, 2624 Hackworth, Ashland, Kentucky
 Coleman, David R., R.R.#1, Lancaster, Ohio
 Courtonay, Walter, 204 Lauderdale Road, Nashville 5, Tennessee
 Craig, John E. II, 358 Rosedale Place, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Crowe, Charles M., 1018 Lake, Wilmette, Illinois
 Cummings, Richard, 3806 Hermitage, Chicago 13, Illinois
 Davis, Dean, 12 Highland Hills, Knoxville 16, Tennessee
 Doubles, Malcolm, 6904 Edmonstone, Richmond 21, Virginia
 Dutton, Richard, 765 Yale Avenue, University City 5, Missouri
 Edgington, Richard, 2827 January Avenue, St. Louis 9, Missouri
 Evans, Dennis L., 321 North 3rd Street, Louisiana, Missouri
 Evans, James W., 15 Balmagoun Lane, Kirkwood 22, Missouri

Exman, Frank W., 145 Old Army Road, Scarsdale, New York
 Exman, Wallace, 145 Old Army Road, Scarsdale, New York
 Ferguson, John, 2969 Manchester Road, Cleveland 22, Ohio
 Fruit, Richard, 2211 Colfax Avenue, Flint 3, Michigan
 Garner, Jimmy, 1703 Georgia Street, Louisiana, Missouri
 Gilliam, Marion W., First Street South, Williamson, West Virginia
 Goettig, Alan H., 309 Spruce Street, Pana, Illinois
 Goff, Richard, 19803 Parke Lane, Gross Ile, Michigan
 Gorton, Michael, 1401 Davis, Evanston, Illinois
 Griesel, Bernard, 3454 Lincoln Avenue, Chicago 13, Illinois
 Grinnell, David, 237 South Elm, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Guthail, Byron, 1561 Sixth Street, Muskegon 13, Michigan
 Hardesty, Robert L., 9 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis 21, Missouri
 Hartong, John, 644 Dalewood Lane, Hinsdale, Illinois
 Hatlestad, Leif, 112 Mayflower Street, Elmwood 10, Connecticut
 Hedges, Charles A., 129 Boles, Fayetteville, Arkansas
 Heideman, Alvah G. Jr., 1107 Ralph Terrace, Richmond Heights 17, Missouri
 Heideman, John P., 1107 Ralph Terrace, Richmond Heights 17, Missouri
 Henges, Lynn R., 7234 Princeton, University City 5, Missouri
 Henges, Ronald E., 7234 Princeton, University City 5, Missouri
 Henthorne, George, 6911 Constance Avenue, Chicago 49, Illinois
 Hoffman, Stanley, 7132 Waterman Avenue, University City 5, Missouri
 Hoffsommer, John, 603 Park, Fayetteville, Arkansas
 Horn, W. David, 8623 Eulalie, Brentwood 17, Missouri
 Hughes, H. Arthur, 6230 Waterman, St. Louis 5, Missouri
 Huntington, Donald, 6224 Mardel, St. Louis 9, Missouri
 Jacoby, Edward, 6560 Itaska, St. Louis 9, Missouri
 Johnson, Robert, 7131 Cedar Street, Wauwatosa 13, Wisconsin
 Justus, Bert W., 6929 Columbia, University City 5, Missouri
 Kamp, Donald B., 17 Aberdeen Place, St. Louis 5, Missouri
 Kase, Edmund H. III, 540 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
 Kellar, Henry S., 2923 Huntington Road, Shaker Heights 22, Ohio
 Kelly, Robert H., 38 Borton Avenue, Akron 2, Ohio
 Kerr, Jay, 1407 Third Avenue, Boulder, Colorado
 Koelling, John, 1741 Central Avenue, Whiting, Indiana
 Krebs, James, 315 W. Jackson, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Krummenacher, Hanford, 5309 Cabanne Avenue, St. Louis 13, Missouri
 Kuester, Dona Id, 7632 Marion Court, Maplewood 17, Missouri
 Landers, Larry G., 933 Pleasant Street, Oak Park, Illinois
 Landman, Robert J., 8120 Oakmere Road, North Muskegon, Michigan
 Lewis, Carter, 5388 Waterman Avenue, St. Louis 12, Missouri
 Longstreet, Bill, 350 Gray Avenue, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Lowe, Douglass, 1809 James Avenue South, Minneapolis 5, Minnesota
 MacCarthy, William, 20 North Hanley Road, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Makeever, Dave A., 2510 Scott Street, Davenport, Iowa
 Mathews, W. Stanley, Route #1, Leesburg, Florida
 May, Ronald W., 4392 Holly Hills Boulevard, St. Louis 16, Missouri
 McAdam, Gregor, 1731 Cleveland Avenue, Whiting, Indiana
 McDonald, James, 522 E. Polo Drive, Clayton 5, Missouri
 McDonald, Robert, 522 E. Polo Drive, Clayton 5, Missouri
 McLain, Paul D., 2950 Jefferson Avenue, Davenport, Iowa
 Moad, Alden, 321 South Elm, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Moad, William, 321 South Elm, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Metcalf, Frederic Jr., 611 Fair Oaks Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois
 Metcalfe, James (Jay) 10 East Swon, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Metzger, Markloy, 919 South Skinker Boulevard, St. Louis 5, Missouri
 Meyer, James S., 1564 Alton Drive, Akron 13, Ohio
 Meyer, Robert T., 1564 Alton Drive, Akron 13, Ohio

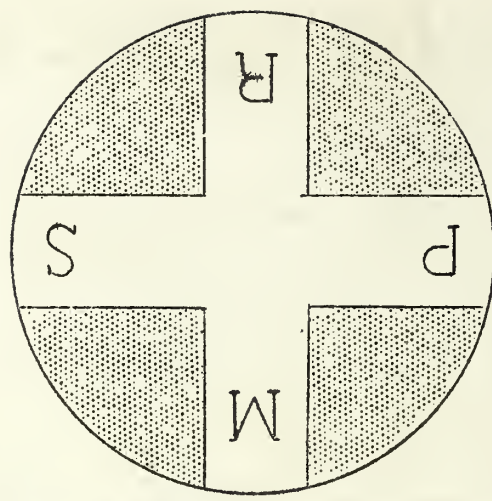
Millard, William, 14402 Drexmore, Shaker Heights 20, Ohio
 Monroe, Chad, 35 Aberdeen Place, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Moulton, Thomas S., Route #3, Lucasville, Ohio
 Myer, John III, Wellborn, Florida
 Myer, H. Dale, Wellborn, Florida
 Nugent, George, 626 Kensington Road, East Lansing, Michigan
 Ohline, R. Wayne, 5466 Neosho, St. Louis 9, Missouri
 Osborne, William H., 712 W. Ohio, Urbana, Illinois
 Patterson, Sandy, 26229 East River Road, Gross Ile, Michigan
 Penwell, Kent, 315 Spruce, Pana, Illinois
 Popo, Richard A., 525 Midvale, University City 5, Missouri
 Price, Ted W., 900 E. Gamber Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio
 Pullen, Jewell B. Jr., 440 Couch Avenue, Kirkwood 22, Missouri
 Raley, John E., 106 Aberdeen Place, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Raley, Tommy E., 106 Aberdeen Place, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Rodgers, Robert, 19 Upper Ladue, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Rohrbough, Malcolm, Park College, Parkville, Missouri
 Rowland, Raymond E., 22 Algonquin Lane, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Russell, David, 3218 Tullamore Road, Cleveland Heights 18, Ohio
 Schaeperkoetter, Robert, 8670 Eulalie, Brentwood 17, Missouri
 Seybt, Harry B., 231 Kerruish Place, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Shawver, John W., 422 W. Columbia, Davenport, Iowa
 Shank, Tom W., 1726 W. Mulberry Street, Kokomo, Indiana
 Siegert, Rudy B., 604 East Third, Pana, Illinois
 Slaggie, Leo, 406 Third Street Arcade, Dayton 2, Ohio
 Smutz, Robert A., 619 Hollywood Place, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Steding, Jerry A., 1220 W. Healey, Champaign, Illinois
 Stoneman, Robert II, 200 Blackmer, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Stoneman, Taylor, 200 Blackmer, Webster Groves 19, Missouri
 Stoner, Bob, 1807 Bluff Avenue, Columbus 8, Ohio
 Studt, John W., 30 Huntleigh Woods, Kirkwood 22, Missouri
 Stupka, Daniel V., 5076 Avondale Avenue, Chicago 30, Illinois
 Vinson, Z. Taylor, 720 - 12th A venue, Huntington 1, West Virginia
 Vlerebome, Allan, 530 E. Fifth Avenue, Lancaster, Ohio
 Vosbrink, Charles, 6579 Murdoch Avenue, St. Louis 9, Missouri
 Walters, Roy N. Jr., Box 414 Borea Collogo, Borea, Kentucky
 Westlake, Samuel B., 116 North Central Avenue, Clayton 5, Missouri
 Wheeler, Charles W., 1724 Dysard Hill, Ashland, Kentucky
 Wildman, Irvin C., 211 Boaregard Street, Charleston 1, West Virginia
 Williams, John M., 229 E. College Street, Granville, Ohio
 Williamson, Charles A., 1602 Kanawha Boulevard, Charleston 1, West Virginia
 Wilson, Robert W., 261 Cassidy Drive, Lexington 18, Kentucky

S T A F F

- Billmeier, Jean (Now Mrs. Norman Bach) Camp Nurse, 1428 Gage St., Saginaw, Mich.
- Davis, Myron W. Dr., 7445 Stratford, St. Louis 5, Missouri
- Gruenewald, Gus A., Assoc. Dir. AYF, 3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.
- Keener, Carolyn, Office Secretary, 363 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, New York
- Orwig, Preston G., Director, AYF, 3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.
- Steiner, Ruth, Dietician, 129 Catawissa Ave., Sunbury, Pennsylvania
- Waite, R. A. "Dad" AYF (Retired), 3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.
- Warmingham, O. W. (Kodaya) Assoc. Dir. AYF 3930 Lindell, St. Louis 8, Mo.
- Whitman, Joe, Director YB Camp, 47 South Fourth Street, Niles, Michigan
- Wortmann, Robert F. Dr., 5841 Maryland A venue, Chicago 37, Illinois

* * * * *

...on the sand-dunes
of Lake Michigan and
Stony Lake...near
SHELBY, MICHIGAN



CAMP MINIWANCA
Younger Boys Camp
...the camp of the
FOUR - FOLD IDEAL

Forwarding or Return Postage Guaranteed
If Undeliverable, notify sender on 3547
THE AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION
3930 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 8, Mo.



Mr. Joe Whitman
47 South Fourth Street
Niles, Michigan



...and so we come to the end of another issue of
the "TRAIL". The next issue will be the annual
Christmas Edition, and we'll appreciate your help
in writing it. Here's hoping you are having a good
year in school, and continuing to have fun develop-
ing yourself physically, socially, mentally and
religiously. We extend the Season's greetings.
May we all express our Thankgiving by our
Thanksgiving.

Sincerely and Founderly,
W. C. Whitman

